



## **NEWS RELEASE**

# **United States Air Force**

### **Air Force Materiel Command**

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#### **AMERICA'S AEROSPACE ADVANTAGE**

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## **Two AEDC teams recognized for excellence**

**ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, TENN. —** Two project teams at the Arnold Engineering Development Center were honored as winners of the Fourth Quarter 2002 AEDC Team Excellence Award.

They are the 2002 Mark I Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) / Countermeasures Hands-on Program (CHOP) Test Team and the Aerodynamic and Propulsion Test Unit (APTU) Test Team.

### **Mark I AFRL/CHOP Team**

The Mark I AFRL/CHOP Team was cited for timely and innovative facility preparations, chamber operations and test project execution during the AFRL/CHOP test series.

The team's mission to design and perform a series of vacuum chamber development and qualification tests for the AFRL, Space Vehicles Directorate and CHOP program was a classified national urgency effort to meet flight test milestones.

By performing facility preparations in a period of two and one-half weeks, (that normally would have required six weeks to accomplish), the team responded to a critical national Missile Defense Agency request. This enabled CHOP to validate designs, qualify flight hardware and meet critical flight test schedule requirements.

When faced with highly dynamic and continuously changing test requirements up to a week prior to trial, the team excelled. They developed alternate test methodologies to meet the requirements while accommodating an accelerated test schedule.

The team successfully demonstrated unprecedented rapid-turnaround operation of the Mark I chamber. During a typical test program, the chamber is pumped down once to specified conditions and held steady for days, even weeks. For this test series, it was pumped down each evening. Tests occurred the following morning, and the chamber was re-entered by noon. This schedule was repeated for four consecutive days, enabling the user to rapidly acquire test data.

Team members included Jacobs Sverdrup (JS) employees Wayne Arnold, Jeannie Bowden, Jim Burns, Ricky Bush, Ken Bynum, Mitch Christian, Ray Cooper, Albert Dawbarn, Mike Forsythe, Everett Fulmer, Andy Gaines, Angelia Garrard, Paul Girata, Tony Gilbreath, Faye Glasner, Terry Harris, Randy Hartman, Fred Heltsley, Reina Henley, Christa Herron, David Housch, Kenneth Housch, Wayne Jennings, Roger Johnson, Winfred Johnson, Michael Krauth, Craig Logan, Barry Long, Heard Lowry, Joe McCabe, Troy Perry, Kevin Pickett, Ron Porter, Debora Richards, Allen Rogers, Lloyd Rogers, Don Rotach, Kathy Saine, Brian Seiber, Dave Simmons, Heidi Snively, Peggy Stubblefield, Dennis Taylor, Janie Turpin, Kent Turner, Hunter Vaughn, Bill Warmbrod and Ed White. Government personnel on the team included Capt. Lance Baxter.

### **APTU Team**

With a team mission to provide test services in the AEDC Aerodynamic and Propulsion Test Unit (APTU) Facility, the APTU Team accomplished 40 successful tests of the Navy's Dual Combustor Ramjet (DCR) test program.

The team worked with the Office of Naval Research (ONR), Johns-Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and GenCorp Aerojet to bring this test program to AEDC. They reactivated the APTU Facility, which had been inactive for two years and successfully tested the hypersonic vehicle at Mach 3.5 and 4.1. This resulted in the development of test techniques, analysis methodologies and diagnostics systems, which gave AEDC an exceptional hypersonic air-breathing propulsion test technique.

The APTU Team made a record-breaking 40 APTU tests in 28 days (on two occasions conducting three runs per day) obtaining program-critical data using advanced diagnostics systems and analysis tools.

Michael Anderson, JS manager, said, "The team demonstrated exceptional dedication and esprit de corps throughout the program, garnering great acclaim and accolades from the sponsors."

A feature published in *Aviation Week & Space Technology* on the test program reflected very well on AEDC.

Team members included JS employees Bob Bates, Brent Bates, Brad Besheres, Taylor Binkley, Johnny Bonnee, Denise Bryant, Will Burnette, Dwayne Carver, David Christian, Becky Combs, Gerald Echerd, Chip Falk, Doug Garrard, Doyle Jones, Bill Jackson, Leldon Kelley, Steve Lawton, Barry Long, Jack Lynn, Heather McKinnon, Carson McAfee, Joe Migglacio, Brian Petty, Larry Phipps, Ron Porter, Sharon Rigney, Mike Routh, Danny Sells, Gary Storey, Steve Stout, Kim Sudberry, Dennis Taylor, Ron Turner and Wayne Whittington. Government personnel on the team included 1st Lt. Tim Budke.